

Message Text

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SUBJECT: FOUNDING COMMITTEE COMPLETES DRAFT CHARTER

1. UN UNIVERSITY FOUNDING COMMITTEE COMPLETED ITS SECOND AND FINAL SESSION AT UNESCO ON JUNE 22 AFTER 10 DAYS' CONSULTATIONS. TWENTY MEMBER COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY ANDREW CORDIER (US), FORMER PRESIDENT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND FORMER UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL OF UN, COMPLETED DRAFT CHARTER FOR NEW UNIVERSITY WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO 93 RD EXBD THIS SEPTEMBER FOR APPROVAL AND FOR FORWARDING TO ECOSOC AND UNGA THIS FALL.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF UNESCO DRAFT COMMUNIQUE OF JUNE 22 WHICH COVERS MAIN POINTS OF 10 DAY DISCUSSION:

QUOTE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED NATIONS' UNIVERSITY CAME A STEP NEARER TODAY WHEN THE FOUNDING COMMITTEE, AFTER 10 DAYS' CONSULTATION AT UNESCO'S PARIS HEADQUARTERS, COMPLETED A DRAFT CHARTER. THIS DRAFT PROVIDES FOR A UNIVERSITY COUNCIL AND A RECTOR AND GUARANTEES ACADEMIC FREEDOM BUT WOULD MAKE U. N. U. UNLIKE ANY EXISTING UNIVERSITY: IT WOULD NOT HAVE A SINGLE CAMPUS BUT WOULD CONSIST OF A NETWORK OF RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRES IN BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. STUDENTS AND STAFF WOULD BE MULTI- NATIONAL AND RESEARCH WOULD FOCUS ON " THE MAJOR PROBLEMS OF HUMAN SURVIVAL AND PROGRESS".

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QUOTE THE DRAFT CHARTER, TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE UNESCO BOARD AND THE UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, BEFORE GOING TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY LATER THIS YEAR, PROPOSES A 24- MEMBER UNIVERSITY COUNCIL. HALF OF THESE WOULD BE APPOINTED JOINTLY BY THE UN SECRETARY- GENERAL AND THE DIRECTOR- GENERAL OF UNESCO AND HALF WOULD BE CO- OPTED BY THE COUNCIL ITSELF. THE COUNCIL WOULD THEN SET UP A COMMITTEE TO PROPOSE CANDIDATES AS RECTOR, WHO WOULD BE APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY- GENERAL WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE DIRECTOR- GENERAL OF UNESCO. APART FROM ITS SPECIAL UNITS AROUND THE WORLD, THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY WOULD HAVE A PROGRAMMING AND COORDINATING CENTRE SITED IN A COUNTRY OFFERING TO HOST IT.

QUOTE FINANCE WOULD COME FROM VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND THE FOUNDING COMMITTEE WAS TOLD THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING OFFERING THE EQUIVALENT OF \$100 MILLION FOR ENDOWMENT IF THE UNIVERSITY CENTRE WERE SET UP IN JAPAN, PLUS THE CAPITAL COSTS OF A UNIVERSITY UNIT IN THE COUNTRY WITH UP TO HALF ITS RUNNING COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO RESEARCH AND TRAINING UNITS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS WERE ALSO OFFERED BY CANADA, THE FRG, ITALY AND TURKEY WHILE OTHER COUNTRIES OFFERED TO SET UP INDIVIDUAL UNITS.

QUOTE WELCOMING THE 20 MEMBERS OF THE FOUNDING COMMITTEE TO UNESCO, THE ORGANIZATION'S DIRECTOR- GENERAL, MR. RENE MAHEU, EXPRESSED " ENTIRE SATISFACTION" WITH THE ROLE FORESEEN FOR UNESCO IN THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY IT WOULD SPONSOR JOINTLY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS. UNESCO'S EXECUTIVE BOARD HAD RECOGNIZED THE ORGANIZATION'S PRIMARY COMPETENCE IN THE FIELD OF THIS PROJECT BEFORE THE LAST GENERAL CONFERENCE HAD PRONOUNCED IN FAVOUR OF IT. INCREASED ACCEPTANCE OF THE UNIVERSITY WOULD NOW DEPEND UPON ITS EARLY ACHIEVEMENTS; IT WAS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THERE COULD BE NO CONCESSIONS ON ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES. IN THIS AREA, HE EMPHASIZED, " THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THE CREATIVE IDEA AND NOT TO OPPORTUNISTIC COMPROMISES."

QUOTE MR. C. V. NARASIMHAN, UNDER SECRETARY- GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WHO WORKED WITH THE FOUNDING COMMITTEE, SAID THAT APART FROM THE OFFERS TO HOST UNITS OF THE UNIVERSITY, SOME GOVERNMENTS WERE WILLING TO MAKE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO ITS FINANCING AND OTHERS WHO COULD NOT YET CONTRIBUTE STILL SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL.
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HE URGED THAT AN ENDOWMENT FUND BE SET UP TO ENSURE A STABLE FINANCIAL FOUNDATION WHILE THE SECRETARY- GENERAL OF THE UN WOULD CONTINUE " TO TAP POTENTIAL RESERVOIRS OF SUPPORT." THERE APPEARED TO BE CONSIDERABLE POTENTIAL SUPPORT IN THE NON- GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES.

QUOTE THIS WAS THE FOUNDING COMMITTEE'S SECOND SESSION, FOLLOWING

UP ONE HELD IN NEW YORK IN MARCH. IT WAS CHAIRED BY MR. ANDREW
CORDIER OF THE UNITED STATES AND MR. DAVIDSON NICOL, EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF THE UN INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH, WORKED
WITH THE COMMITTEE. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLD UNIVERSITY
SERVICE, THE UN YOUTH CAUCUS AND THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOVE-
MENT FOR THE UN ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE DISCUSSIONS. ENDQUOTE.
IRWIN

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